

February 1, 1974

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter was next to speak, then Frank Lewis, Stahmer and Chambers.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well all I've got to say, I'll say it again. You can hold the bill on General File if you want to. You can move it to Select File if you want to. You've got my word, I'll use either one of the two or three bills that are moving along. I'll introduce a new bill in order to put this problem in perspective so you'll only be voting on that. And when we adjourn that issue, before or after you can take the amendment I offered off from Senator Clark's bill. And I don't see any real reason to debate any longer, so I'm going to do this, and I'm going to let the thing ride on it's own. This body has been gracious enough to adopt the amendment, I appreciate that. I said before it has to have some changing to do even what it is supposed to do now. I said I would do this. I would only hope you would advance this bill to Select File. I'll guarantee I'll get the bill in here and we will determine that issue on this bill, a new bill or one or the two or three that, now floating around now between the committee. That is all I can guarantee you I'll do.

PRESIDENT: Senator Frank Lewis. The motion is to advance the bill.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Mr. Chair, I move to support the original concept of Senator Clark's bill. Simply because my city is included and it is at my request they looked into the problem of transportation for the elderly. And I think the original bill is great. The second I would call your attention to would be the amendment. And I appreciate what Senator Carpenter is doing to hold this and add a new bill. I'll have an amendment for that at that time to provide some additional funds to see that we have the necessary fund to provide transportation for the elderly. Not only in Omaha and Lincoln, but certainly Senator Carpenter has made the point that the transportation problems of the elderly is not only germane to Omaha and Lincoln. So certainly we can put something on there that would provide that so everyone that really wants to provide reasonable low cost transportation for the elderly can do that on the basis of providing some money to go with it. So then we can separate those people who want to say that they're for God and motherhood and all those things, but don't want to pay for them. Those programs that I've supported, I've said let's put the dollars to go with them and I'll provide you an opportunity with an amendment to Senator Carpenter's new bill or any one of the alternatives that he has provided.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stahmer for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR STAHMER: Well I'm going to support Senator Carpenter for his motion to advance the bill. I take him at his word and I know he is an honorable man. If he's interested in doing something for the elderly and he's willing to come in with a new bill, then I think Senator Clark's bill will be in good shape, etc. But I'd just like to point one word that's on line 16, page 4, where we are dealing with subdivisions of Government or non-profit organizations, etc., who provide transportation. Notice the first word on line 16. Solely for the elderly. And mass transportation system in Omaha does not provide the transportation solely for the elderly. It would have nothing to do with mass. The city of Omaha would have to set up a new system. This wouldn't be all bad. I think a better way could be found. And perhaps we can utilize some of the